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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, July 29, 2009
WWW.USDOJ.GOV/USAO/MN

Minneapolis man convicted of distributing cocaine, crack cocaine; 13 others plead guilty

A 30-year-old Minneapolis man was convicted this week in federal court for the Twin-City distribution of cocaine and cocaine base, commonly known as crack cocaine. Thirteen other co-defendants already have pleaded guilty for their roles in the distribution operation.

On July 27 in Minneapolis, Jerry Martese Dubose was convicted of one count of conspiracy to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine. The jury deliberated for just two hours following the three-day trial.

The 13 co-defendants, all of whom pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy, include the following: Dexter Antonio Fields, 34, Chicago, Ill.; Brian Javon Nelson, unknown age, Chicago; Bernard Gaines, 35, unknown address; James Germane Boss, 37, Chicago; Giovanni Lamar Turnipseed, 28, unknown address; Darryl Lamont Woods, 34, unknown address; Mario Leon Tyson, 31, unknown address; Deon Leshawn Holmes, 33, Mounds View; Mark Robinson, 39, Minneapolis; Lee Kirk, 32, unknown address; Jamelle Davon Shoals, 23, unknown address; Alvin Dushawn Griffin, 27, Minneapolis; and Leon Edward Lloyd, 25, unknown address.

According to their respective plea agreements, the co-defendants admitted that from 2006 through May 16, 2008, they conspired to distribute 500 or more grams of cocaine and 50 or more grams of crack cocaine. Several also admitted transporting the drugs from Chicago to Minnesota.

In August 2007, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Violent Offender Task Force unit of the Minneapolis Police Department received information about a large cocaine and crack cocaine distribution network spanning from Chicago to the Twin Cities. Law enforcement received permission from a federal judge to intercept the telephone calls of three of the co-defendants. Dubose was intercepted on all three wiretaps.

If convicted, each of the defendants faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison and a mandatory minimum of 10 years on the conspiracy count. United States District Court Chief

Judge Michael Davis will determine the defendants' sentences at a future date.

This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI and the Minneapolis Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Ann M. Anaya and Andrew R. Winter.